

The City of Hialeah  
Communications & Special Events Department  
20 East 6 Street  
Hialeah, Florida 33010  
Phone: 305.889.5701  
Fax: 305.888.8031



# Press Release

## HIALEAH'S HURRICANE KIT GIVEAWAY GREAT SUCCESS!

### Hialeah, Florida –

The City of Hialeah's office of Emergency Management, in partnership with Hands on Miami hosted their annual 40 hour Leadership and Disaster/CERT Training for teens last Wednesday. As part of the curriculum and a graduation requirement, teens prepared hurricane kits, met with senior citizens, individually interviewed them, and provided them a hurricane kit that met their needs.

Mayor Julio Robaina was present in celebration of the teen's accomplishments along side Council Members Jose "Pepe" Yedra, Luis Gonzalez, Jose Caragol, Katharine Cue, and Vivian Casals-Muñoz. Also present were Police Chief Mark N. Overton and Emergency Management Director Joe Caragol

This year a total of 29 teens participated and all graduated on Friday, July 31, 2009. One of the class's objectives was to serve the community and contact a group of senior citizens and interact with them by preparing them for a hurricane or a hazardous emergency. "It is important that we reach out to our elderly and extend aide during hurricane season in preparing them properly in the event of a storm," Mayor Robaina said. "It is also equally important to encourage the virtue of giving back and instill the habit of community service to our young teens as well," he added. The purpose of the event was two bring these two objectives together and bridge the gap between teens and the elderly in an activity in which both groups benefit.

Senior citizen participants of the Victor Wilde Adult Community Center received hurricane kits which included several items such as: flash lights, AM/FM radios and first aid kits. Last year, this initiative started as a pilot program for the Emergency Management Office. The success of this year's event allows for additional classes to be funded in partnership with Hands on Miami.

Also featured at the event were exciting demos from the Fleet and Communications Department Mobile Command Vehicle, the Hialeah Police SWAT and K-9 Unit and the Hialeah Fire Department's Engine and Rescue. Additionally, State Farm Insurance presented the City of Hialeah with a \$10,000 check for Service Learning Projects.

**For more information, please contact the City of Hialeah Communications & Special Events Department at 305-889-5701.**

**PHOTOS –**

**580 –**

Mayor Julio Robaina greets members of the Victor Wilde Community Center Lunch Program before the event.

**609 –**

Mayor Julio Robaina speaks to a full house of at Wilde Community Center.

**636 –**

State Farm Representatives present the City of Hialeah with a generous contribution for Service Learning Projects.